

Message Text

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ACTION SY-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ISO-00 SSO-00 SCCT-02 /015 W

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O R 171817Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5748

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1158

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJ: THREAT LIBREVILLE MISSION

ADDIS FOR RMO AND RSS

KINSHASA FOR RSO

FROM CHARGE

REF: STATE 203444 (NOTAL)

1. FOLLOWING NUMBERS KEYED TO RECOMMENDATIONS PARA 3
REFTEL:

(1) POST RECRUITING PERSONNEL AND WILL USE EMBASSY
LABORERS AS NIGHT GUARDS UNTIL SUITABLE PEOPLE FOUND.
WE ALSO EXPLORING USE OF GABONESE POLICE ON CONTRACT
BASIS FOR RESIDENCE COVERAGE (SEE BELOW). FOR RSO:
PLEASE BE PREPARED TO BRIEF PSO/AO LIBREVILLE ON ADMINISTRATIVE
AND FISCAL DETAILS OF KINSHASA USE OF LOCAL POLICE IN THIS
REGARD.

(2) CHARGE MET SEPTEMBER 17 WITH SURETE COUNSELOR BLAIRY
FOR GENERAL REVIEW OF SECURITY SITUATION AND
SPECIFICALLY TO REQUEST BODYGUARD/NIGHT WATCHMAN FOR AMBASSADOR.
BLAIRY NOTED IT IMPOSSIBLE WITH SMALL GABONESE POLICE FORCE
TO PROVIDE CONTINUOUS PROTECTION FOR EMBASSIES. CHARGE
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SUGGESTED EMBASSY CONCLUDE CONTRACT WITH SURETE POLICE OR

GENDARMERIE FOR USE NECESSARY PERSONNEL DURING THEIR OFF-DUTY HOURS OR HAVE DIRECT CONTRACT WITH INDIVIDUALS RECOMMENDED BY SURETE. BLAIRY THOUGHT THIS QUITE FEASIBLE, PROMISED PLAN TO DIRECTOR OF SURETE AND INFORM CHARGE OF DECISION SOONEST.

(3) CEO/R NORWOOD PRESENTLY ON POST INSTALLING VOICE RADIO NET WITH EXISTING EQUIPMENT. HE HAS INSTALLED RADIO BASE STATION AT MSG WATCHSTAND IN CHANCERY BEING MANNED 24-HOUR BASIS. BASE STATION SELCAL AND SEVEN SELCAL HN-36 HAVE BEEN POUCHED FROM ACCRA. POST DISTRESSED THAT RCO/ACCRA NOT SENDING NEW BATTERY PACKS WITH EXTERNAL CHARGERS THAT ARRIVED ACCRA WITH THE NEW SELCAL UNITS, AS IT APPROPRIATE THAT AT THIS TIME IN PARTICULAR LIBREVILLE SHOULD RECEIVE NEW UPDATED EQUIPMENT AND NOT SECOND-HAND BATTERIES, WITH OLD-FASHIONED USED CHARGING CORDS.

(4) MOBILE UNIT (MOBILE MOUNT PR36) BEING INSTALLED COM AND DCM VEHICLES. NORWOOD RECOMMENDS MT 76 WITH TYPE 90 ENCODER/DECODER, HIDDEN MIKE, HIDDEN BUTTON AND ALARM SYSTEM FOR MSG WATCHSTAND BE POUCHED TO POST SOONEST. CEO WILL RETURN POST APPROXIMATELY TWO WEEKS AND WILL INSTALL.

(5) VISITOR CONTROL HAS BEEN EMPHASIZED AND ALL SENIOR LOCALS BEEN PUT ON ALERT FOR SUSPICIOUS PEOPLE/ PACKAGES.

(6) ANTI-TERRORIST PLANS PRESENTLY UNDER REVIEW AS PART OF MSG INSTALLATION PROCEDURES.

2. RE PARA 4 REFTTEL (KINSHASA FOR RSO): PLEASE BRING WITH YOU TO LIBREVILLE ON SEPTEMBER 20 FOLLOWING EQUIPMENT. CARRY IT IN DIPLOMATIC COURIER POUCH AND HAVE YOURSELF REGISTERED AS SPECIAL COURIER.

A. MSG SPECIAL SERVICES WEAPON AND AMMUNITION CAN BE EFFECTIVELY UTILIZED IN LIBREVILLE. CAN BE FOUND IN SECOND FLOOR RIOT LOCKER.

B. WEAPON UNDER STAIRWELL: 303 RIFLE PLUS AMMUNITION. SMITHERS FAMILIAR WITH WEAPON.
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C. NINE BOXES 38 CAL. BALL AMMUNITION. POST HAS RECEIVED NINE 38 CAL. WEAPONS TO DATE BUT NO AMMUNITION.

D. SHOTGUN SHELLS AS PER REFTTEL.

E. LOAN OF SEVEN GAS MASKS.

F. HALF CASE OF TEAR GAS GRENADES.

3. SURETE COUNSELOR BLAIRY IN SEPTEMBER 17 CONVERSATION SAID IN OPINION SENIOR FRENCH AND GABONESE SURETE OFFICIALS THREATENING PHONE CALLS TO EMBASSY MOST PROBABLY EXAMPLES OF MALICIOUS MISCHIEF, BUT ASSURED CHARGE OF FULL COOPERATION IN PROTECTION OF EMBASSY. SURETE HAS PROVIDED US WITH DEVICE TO PERMIT TAPING OF INCOMING PHONE CALLS IN EMBASSY AND WE NOW SEEKING TO PURCHASE APPROPRIATE TAPE RECORDER. WE ALSO DERIVE CONSIDERABLE COMFORT FROM FACT THAT FROM A NUMBER OF SOURCES WE UNDERSTAND LOCAL POLICE ARE IN GENERAL STATE OF ALERT AND THAT ARMED PARATROOPERS VERY MUCH IN EVIDENCE AT FRENCH EMBASSY ACROSS STREET FROM EMBASSY CHANCERY.
COUNTRYMAN

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